

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method ~~for customizing a prepaid service in a telecommunications system, the method~~ comprising:
  - maintaining subscriber information on at least one prepaid subscriber,
  - defining at least two different prepaid profiles, each prepaid profile defining at least one attribute for the prepaid service, the attribute indicating how the prepaid service is to be provided;
  - associating the prepaid subscriber's subscriber information with one of the at least two different prepaid profiles, and
  - providing the prepaid service to the prepaid subscriber as indicated by the attribute defined in the one prepaid profile associated with the prepaid subscriber's information.
2. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the associating is carried out during subscription provisioning.
3. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, the method further comprising updating subscriber information during recharge as defined in the one prepaid profile.
4. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, which has the attribute of being a deposit function defining how to calculate the credit during recharge.
5. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, which has the attribute of being an expiry function defining how to calculate the validity time of the prepaid credit.
6. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, which has the attribute of being an expiry state handling function defining how the possibilities of a prepaid subscriber are limited over time when no recharge is carried out.

7. (Previously Presented) A telecommunications system offering prepaid subscription services, the system comprising at least one database having subscriber information on at least one prepaid subscriber, wherein

the system is arranged to maintain at least two different prepaid profiles, each prepaid profile defining at least one attribute for the prepaid service, the attribute indicating how the prepaid service is to be provided; to associate the prepaid subscriber's subscriber information with one of the at least two different prepaid profiles; and to provide a prepaid service to the prepaid subscriber as indicated by the attribute defined in the associated prepaid profile.

8. (Previously Presented) A telecommunications system as claimed in claim 7, wherein the attribute is a deposit function and the system is further arranged to calculate a prepaid subscriber's credit according to the deposit function defined in the one prepaid profile associated with the prepaid subscriber's subscriber information.

9. (Previously Presented) A telecommunications system as claimed in claim 7, wherein the attribute is an expiry function and the system is further arranged to calculate a prepaid subscriber's credit validity according to the expiry function defined in the one prepaid profile associated with the prepaid subscriber's subscriber information.

10. (Previously Presented) A telecommunications system as claimed in claim 7, wherein the attribute is an expiry handling function and the system is further arranged to limit the possibilities of a prepaid subscriber over time according to the expiry handling function defined in the one prepaid profile associated with the prepaid subscriber's subscriber information.

11. (Cancelled).

12. (Currently Amended) ~~A network element in a telecommunications system, where subscribers of the system can prepay for their calls by recharging their accounts via vouchers, the element~~ including a database containing at least two different prepaid profile definitions, each prepaid profile defining at least one attribute for the prepaid service, the attribute indicating how a prepaid service is to be provided.

13. (Previously Presented) A network element as claimed in claim 12, wherein the attribute is a deposit function defining how to calculate the credit during recharge.

14. (Previously Presented) A network element as claimed in claim 12, wherein the attribute is an expiry function defining how to calculate the validity time of the prepaid credit.

15. (Previously Presented) A network element as claimed in claim 12, wherein the attribute is an expiry state handling function defining how the possibilities of a prepaid subscriber are limited over time when no recharge is carried out.

16. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said defining includes predefining the at least two different prepaid profiles in the telecommunication system before said at least one prepaid subscriber accesses the telecommunication system.

17. (New) A network element comprising a processor configured to have access to subscriber information on prepaid subscribers and to at least two different prepaid profile definitions, each prepaid profile defining at least one attribute for the prepaid service, the attribute indicating how the prepaid service is to be provided, and to update, during a prepaid subscriber's account recharge, subscriber information on the prepaid subscriber according to a prepaid profile associated with the prepaid subscriber's subscriber information, the associated prepaid profile being one of the at least two different prepaid profiles.

18. (New) A network element comprising:  
means for obtaining subscriber information of prepaid subscribers who can prepay for their calls by recharging their accounts via vouchers;

means for obtaining to at least two different prepaid profile definitions, each prepaid profile defining at least one attribute for the prepaid service, the attribute indicating how the prepaid service is to be provided; and

means for updating the subscriber information during recharge according to a prepaid profile associated with the recharging prepaid subscriber's subscriber information, the associated prepaid profile being one of the at least two different prepaid profiles.